

Boxborough Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday May 1, 2013
Town Hall

Members present: Charlene Golden, Norm Hanover, David Koonce, Dennis Reip (Chair), Hoff Stuart, Rick Williamson and David Follett at 8:20 PM.

Dennis called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

Motion was made by David Koonce, seconded by Dennis, and unanimously voted 6 – 0 to approve the corrected minutes of February 20, 2013.

Motion was made by Hoff, seconded by Dennis, and unanimously voted 6 – 0 to approve the minutes of April 3, 2013.

Dennis reported on an email from Brian Ahern of Habitech, Inc that the latter is proposing a two-lot 40B in the Whispering Pines subdivision off Burroughs Road. Brian was informed that wetland filing forms are on the town website.

Charlene reported on the activity at 8 Davidson Road. The owner has removed several large damaged trees from outside the buffer zone. A new lean-to in the back yard appears to be located very close to the buffer zone with a “fair amount” of associated activity. A new wood storage structure is in the buffer zone. A few large trees may have been taken down in the buffer zone. Dennis will have Mary check to see if the current owner has ever been to see the Commission in the past and decide at some point whether he should be called in again.

Dennis, Norm, Charlene, and David Follett reported on their site visit to Flerra Field. It is clear the Bruce Davidson mowed and maintained the area of fruit trees last year. All four concrete bounds were found. A bee hive was found on Conservation land and Mr. Copeland has removed all of his items from the Conservation land. The Browns need to be asked to remove the beehive. Dennis will draft the following letters:

1. to Davidson / Butler to stop encroaching on Conservation land
2. to the Browns to remove the beehive
3. to the Copelands thanking them for their cooperation and compliance with Commission requests to remove their items from Conservation land.

Norm pointed out that the Browns may not own the beehive. Dennis will phrase the letter with a request to remove it; if not, the Commission will have the beehive removed.

The Commission discussed potential new trail locations at Flerra Meadows. DPW help will be needed to place fill at the entrance. Norm has been in contact with Allen Proulx, who is still interested in the installation of a foot bridge as an Eagle Scout project. The group settled on a route to connect to the existing trail network. The new trail really hinges on getting the footbridge in place.

Regarding Lot 5 Depot Road, the contractor has been told that the hay bales as installed are ok, but that new hay bales may be required if risk of erosion is observed.

Ken Fabian was present to discuss his idea for an educational project on the library parcel. The project would consist of a nature classroom for the purpose of “hands-on” opportunities for students to learn about all aspects of the natural world. Ken asked the Commission for guidance

structure with handicapped access and otherwise meeting building codes, possibly with electricity. Ken was advised that any activity within 100 feet of wetlands is within the Commission's jurisdiction and any activity within the buffer zone will need the Commission's approval. The existing handicapped accessible bridge will likely have to be used.

Motion was made by David Follett, seconded by Dennis, and unanimously voted 7 – 0 to approve the minutes of April 17, 2013.

Norm reported that everything is all set with the DPW on the Flerra Meadow mowing.

Charlene reported that Elizabeth Hughes, Town Planner, has done a great job of publicizing the OSRP survey, making it available on the town website and the lobby of town hall.

Motion was made by Dennis, seconded by David Follett, and unanimously voted 7 – 0 to adjourn at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted, David Koonce.


Approved


Date